

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 660

By Woodson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Ms. Erbie Lee Steiner Tegland on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Erbie Lee Tegland will celebrate her 100th birthday on March 23, 2008, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of George W. and Flora Nash Steiner, Erbie Tegland was born and raised in Union County as the sixth of eleven children; and

WHEREAS, a hardworking individual, Ms. Tegland displayed a stalwart work ethic as an employee at the Standard Knitting Mills at the young age of thirteen; at the age of seventeen, she began teaching in a one-room school house which her father helped build, teaching all eight of the grades offered at the time between 1925-26; and

WHEREAS, the next year, Erbie Tegland moved to Knoxville and embarked on a career in the telephone industry as an operator with the Southern Bell Telephone Company; and

WHEREAS, in 1929, Ms. Tegland moved to California with her older sister and brother-in-law, gaining employment with the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company; and

WHEREAS, for forty-four years, Ms. Tegland served with acumen and alacrity with Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, where she earned the respect of her peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, recognized for her enthusiasm and intelligence, Erbie Tegland quickly rose through the ranks at the telephone company; she diligently served as an instructor and supervisor of the traffic department before advancing to the position of Interviewer and

Employment Supervisor; she was next promoted to the District Manager's office, where she remained until her retirement in May of 1971; and

WHEREAS, during her illustrious career, Ms. Tegland was a distinguished member of several professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, she was a member of the American Business Women's Association, by which she was selected as the Bakersfield chapter's 1965 "Woman of the Year," and attended several of the organization's annual meetings as the Bakersfield chapter representative; she still maintains her membership in this organization; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tegland also rendered astute service as the Vice-President of the Bakersfield chapter of the Telephone Pioneers of America, by which she was honored with a lifetime certificate upon her retirement, and she was an active member of the Order of the Amaranths; and

WHEREAS, Erbie Tegland met her beloved husband, Orrie Neil Tegland, in 1929, and they were joined in holy matrimony on April 29, 1932, in Visalia, California, before honeymooning in San Francisco; he preceded her in death in 1970; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Ms. Tegland moved back to Tennessee to be near her family; she bought a house in Knoxville that one of her brothers helped to build, and she still lives in this house today; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong Republican, Ms. Tegland was a member of the Bakersfield Women's Republican Club in California, which she served as Usher and was selected by the President to complete the "President's Book of the Year;" she remained active in this group until her move to Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, as she approaches her eleventh decade, Erbie Tegland is still an active and productive member of society, and she contributes her longevity to clean living, hard work, and faith in God; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Ms. Ernie Lee Steiner Tegland on the celebration of her 100th birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.